



California
Department of
Health Services

SANDRA SHEWRY
Director

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Health Services



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

Date December 30, 2005

MMCD All Plan Letter 05014

TO All Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plans

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF 2005 CHAPTERED LEGISLATION IMPACTING
OR OF INTEREST TO MEDI-CAL MANAGED CARE PLANS

The purpose of this letter is to provide summary information about bills chaptered during the 2005 Legislative session, that impact, or may be of interest to Medi-Cal managed care plans (MCPs). We have enclosed the following:

List of chaptered bills. You can review a brief summary of each bill on the Department's website:
<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/lga/pdf/Legislative%20Summary-2005.pdf>. You may also access complete copies of the bills through the California State Legislature's website: <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/bilinfo.html>.

- Impact summary table indicating the effective date for each bill, affected entities, and plan submissions and contract changes that will be required as a result of the legislation.

Please be advised that the chaptered legislation summarized does not reflect all changes in State law that may affect the business practices or daily operations of contracting MCPs.


Each MCP is responsible for reviewing and analyzing the impact of chaptered legislation on their operations. Contractors are expected to implement statutory changes as required by the effective date of each chaptered bill and should not delay any required operational changes while the Medi-Cal Managed Care Division (MMCD) processes related contract amendments. In addition, MCPs are responsible for compliance with any regulatory requirements that are enforced by other state or federal entities. (See General Terms and Conditions of your contract.)

MCPs are reminded that, due to these legislative actions, your contracts may be amended to require the following changes: new or revised reports, policies and procedures, provider directories, member informing materials, or subcontracts. California Department of Health Services (CDHS) review and approval may be required before these changes are implemented. Please refer to your specific contract for approval requirements and time frames.

When necessary, MMCD will issue policy letters to clarify the application of some new laws to the Medi-Cal Managed Care Program. Laws that contain provisions specific to Medi-Cal may require CDHS to promulgate new regulations as part of the implementation process. Future policy letters and proposed regulations related to new legislation will be distributed to contracting MCPs as they become available.

If you have questions about how a specific chaptered bill affects your Medi-Cal MCP contract, please contact your CDHS contract manager.

Sincerely,


Vanessa M. Baird, MPPA, Chief
Medi-Cal Managed Care Division

Enclosures (2)